

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 ERDA-05 EUR-12 H-01 INR-07 L-03

OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SP-02 SS-15

TRSE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-07 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

DLOS-06 OES-06 SAL-01 /125 W

-----110844Z 005111 /11

O R 110751Z FEB 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5124

INFO USMISSION UN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 0976

PASS TO ACDA/IR AND STATE/IO FROM MEYERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM US

SUBJ: PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY

REVIEW CONFERENCE: FOURTH DAY

REF: A. GENEVA 0865 (PARA 1), B. GENEVA 0865 (PARA 3)

C. STATE 030013

1. SUMMARY. DURING FOURTH DAY PREPCOM APPROVED RECOMMEN-  
DATION THAT SUBSTANTIAL PROPOSALS BE SUBMITTED IF POSSIBLE  
AT LEAST ONE MONTH BEFORE REVCON STARTS. IT WAS ALSO  
AGREED THAT CHAIRMAN PREPCOM WILL ISSUE INVITATION TO  
ATTEND REVCON TO ALL STATES PARTIES AND SIGNATORIES.  
ISSUE OF BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR REVCON WAS DISCUSSED, BUT  
DECISIONS DEFERRED. FINANCIAL ISSUES ALSO DISCUSSED, BUT  
NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED. PRESS ARRANGEMENTS WERE AGREED.  
END SUMMARY.

2. IN MORNING SESSION OF FOURTH DAY, PREPCOM APPROVED  
PROPOSAL BY NETHERLANDS REP RECOMMENDING THAT PARTIES  
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SUBMIT ANY SUBSTANTIAL PROPOSAL TO BE CONSIDERED BY  
REVCON IF POSSIBLE AT LEAST ONE MONTH BEFORE THE  
CONFERENCE STARTS. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT THE CHAIR-  
MAN OF THE PREPCOM WILL ISSUE INVITATIONS TO ATTEND  
REVCON TO ALL STATES PARTIES AND SIGNATORIES.

3. A BACKGROUND PAPER ON THE SEABED TREATY, PREPARED

BY THE SECRETARIAT, WAS DISCUSSED AND A NUMBER OF MODIFICATIONS PROPOSED. BULGARIAN REP SUGGESTED PAPER BE SENT AS ANNEX TO REPORT ON PREPCOM WHICH CHAIRMAN WOULD SEND TO GOVERNMENTS (I.E., NOT AS PREPCOM DOCUMENT). ROMANIAN REP SUGGESTED THAT SECRETARIAT PREPARE THREE BACKGROUND PAPERS: (A) FIRST ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY AND ITS EFFECTIVENESS IN PROMOTING A TREATY FOR GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT; (B) SECOND, ON DEVELOPMENT OF ARMS RACE IN THE NAVAL SECTOR, IN PARTICULAR NUCLEAR ARMS RACE, AND NEW TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS; (C) THIRD, IMPACT OF SEABED TREATY ON INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE EXPLOITATION OF SEAS AND OCEANS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES. THE SWEDISH REP SUPPORTED THE PROPOSAL OF A STUDY ON TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS, BUT SUGGESTED AS SUBSTITUTE THAT STUDIES SHOULD MORE CLOSELY BE RELATED TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS OF SEABED TREATY, CITING ARTICLES 1 THROUGH 7, AND HOPED TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION WOULD BE FORTHCOMING FROM MAJOR POWERS. AUSTRALIAN REP SUGGESTED THAT SECRETARIAT COMPILE SUBMISSIONS BY PARTIES RATHER THAN ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE ITS OWN ANALYSIS. ACTION ON THE ISSUE OF BACKGROUND STUDIES WAS DEFERRED.

4. IN AFTERNOON SESSION, THERE WAS A SPIRITED DISCUSSION OF FINANCING ISSUES. THE UN BUDGET DIVISION PROVIDED A LIST OF UN ASSESSMENTS AND A PROJECTION OF PRORATED SHARES BASED ON PARTIES (US: 30.56 PERCENT) AND ON PARTIES PLUS SIGNATORIES (US: 29.45 PERCENT).  
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SINCE NOT ALL PARTIES AND SIGNATORIES ARE LIKELY TO PARTICIPATE, THESE FIGURES ARE ROUGH. ESTIMATED COST OF THE CONFERENCE TOGETHER WITH PREPCOM MEETINGS APPROXIMATELY \$250,000.

5. UK REP MADE POINT THAT FIGURES WERE ROUGH SINCE NEW PARTIES MIGHT JOIN AND SOME SIGNATORIES MIGHT RATIFY PRIOR TO REVCON. HE ALSO OBSERVED THAT SOME PARTIES MAY ELECT TO ATTEND AS OBSERVERS, AS HAD HAPPENED AT NPT REVCON. (FYI. IRAQ ATTENDED NPT REVCON AS OBSERVER EVEN THOUGH IT WAS A PARTY. UK DEL MENTIONED PRIVATELY THAT SOUTH AFRICA, ALTHOUGH A PARTY TO SEABED TREATY, MAY WISH TO ATTEND REVCON AS OBSERVER TO AVOID POSSIBLE CREDENTIALS FIGHT. END FYI.)

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
USIE-00 INRE-00 ERDA-05 EUR-12 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
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TRSE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-07 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10  
DLOS-06 OES-06 SAL-01 /125 W  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 0976

6. WHEN CHAIRMAN NOTED CANADIAN AND CO-SPONSORS PROPOSAL (REF A) WAS ONLY PROPOSAL BEFORE PREPCOM, NETHERLANDS REP ADDED HIS SUPPORT. INDIAN REP SAID INDIA COULD NOT ACCEPT AND, DUE TO PROBLEMS FOR LDC'S, STRONGLY PREFERRED NPT COST-SHARING FORMULA.

7. U.S.REP SAID IF ISSUES WERE BASED ON PRINCIPLE, THEN U.S. ALSO HAD PRINCIPLE OF COST-SHARING FOR IT NO HIGHER THAN UN ASSESSMENT SCALE (OR 25 PERCENT FOR U.S.). ON PRACTICAL BASIS, \$250,000 COST FOR CONFERENCE MEANT PAYING ONE PERCENT COST \$2500 AND AT LOWEST END OF UN SCALE (0.02) MEANT \$50. THAT SEEMED NOT BEYOND ABILITY OF UN MEMBER TO PAY. IF THERE WERE STRONG CONSENSUS IN FAVOR CANADIAN PROPOSAL, U.S. WOULD RELUCTANTLY BE PREPARED ACCEPT THIS EVEN IF IT MUCH PREFERRED OTHER FORMULA. (COMMENT: SOUNDING MADE WIDELY EARLIER BY USDEL HAD DEMONSTRATED WIDE-SPREAD OPPOSITION TO U.S. POSITION PARA 3, REF B, AND EXTENSIVE SUPPORT FOR CANADIAN FORMULA. HENCE, IN LIGHT INDIAN EFFORT ENLIST LDC SUPPORT FOR NPT FORMULA, USREP RELIED ON PARA 2, REF C. END COMMENT.)

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8. GHANAIA REP ADVOCATED PRINCIPLE THAT STATES PARTIES TO TREATIES HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY FOR PAYING ASSOCIATED COSTS, SUCH AS FOR REVIEW CONFERENCES, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY ATTEND. AT REQUEST OF CANADIAN REP,

GHANAIAIAN REP AGREED NOT TO PRESS.

9. JAPANESE REP INDICATED SUPPORT OF CANADIAN PROPOSAL AND WELCOMED U.S. STATEMENT. INDIAN REP REQUESTED TIME TO CONSIDER FINANCIAL ISSUE.

10. PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR REVCON SUGGESTED BY UN OFFICE OF PRESS AND INFORMATION WERE APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.

11. ISSUES WHICH REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED INCLUDE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS, BACKGROUND PAPERS, AND CONFERENCE OFFICERS. CATTO

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
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